

From: [CityWatch](#)
To: [Kent Smith](#)
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Here is the latest CityWatch brief for Tuesday, July 21, 2015

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VALLEY VISION



The Valley: Finally Getting Its Fair Share of the Transportation Pie

Ken Alpern

GETTING THERE FROM HERE-To my neighbors in the San Fernando Valley, I say to you all: "Relax, I come in peace." While I've had lots of past criticism for the Valley political leadership in their failure to kill the Robbins bill that could have (and should have!) established the Orange Line as a light rail, and not a Bus Rapid Transit project, at...



Measure of Deception: Initiative Would Gut Retirement Benefits for Millions of Californians

Bill Raden

CAPITAL AND MAIN REPORT-When Democratic former San Jose mayor Chuck Reed and Republican ex-San Diego councilmember Carl DeMaio finally unveiled the language for a promised attempt at getting a statewide public pension cutting measure to 2016 voters, the expectation was that Reed II would be a reined-in and more realistically-framed version of Reed...



Solution Alert! The Police Can be Trained to Deal with the Mentally Ill ... Here's How

Roque Wicker

WHO WE ARE-Police shootings are on the rise or at least seem to be thanks to the street level reporters, social media, smart phones, concerned citizens with handy cams and the ever growing "anti-police" movement in America. Some of these incidents include Oakland, CA BART shooting, the 2013 shooting of an unarmed man in Gardena, CA (caught on...



It's Not Much of a Memorial If It's Used to Sell Dish Washer Detergent

Bob Gelfand

GELFAND'S WORLD-Am I the only one who is a little miffed at the plan to sell off naming rights to the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum? We've lived our entire lives with that name. It has dignity and it has historical meaning. The name has been repeated thousands of times by sports announcers, typically explaining why Notre Dame didn't win. The same...



Donald Trump: The Bull in a China Shop

Charlotte Laws

A DIFFERENT LOOK AT THE TRUMPSTER-Donald Trump is the bull in a china shop. His competitors, delicate breakables, are lined up on the shelf, concerned that any bold move could topple them to the ground. They come off as typical politicians, cautious, fragile, and unwilling to deviate from the constraints of their carefully contrived scripts. The...



Who Owns Police Videos?

Clinton Galloway

VOX POP-For two years the city of Gardena refused to release video taken by police officers during the shooting death of an unarmed civilian. A federal judge finally forced the city to release this video so the public could see what

the officers had done. The shooting of unarmed civilian who was not engaged in any criminal activity is a shocking...



Diverting Water Revenues to City Hall Is Not OK

Jack Humphreville

LA WATCHDOG-Our Department of Water and Power is proposing to bump our water rates by 27% over the next five years. These new revenues, which will eventually reach \$250 million a year, along with a five year capital expenditure plan of \$5 billion, will be used to repair and upgrade the Department's long neglected infrastructure, develop and expand...



Alert! Eviction by Ellis Act: Landlords Turning up the Heat on LA's Renters

Tim Deegan

LA'S NEIGHBORHOODS - Classic questions: "To be or not to be?" "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" and, increasingly, "Should I rent my building or evict the tenants and turn it into condos or a new development?" These days, many landlords are asking those questions and considering their options: to continue renting to their tenants, or to use a law...

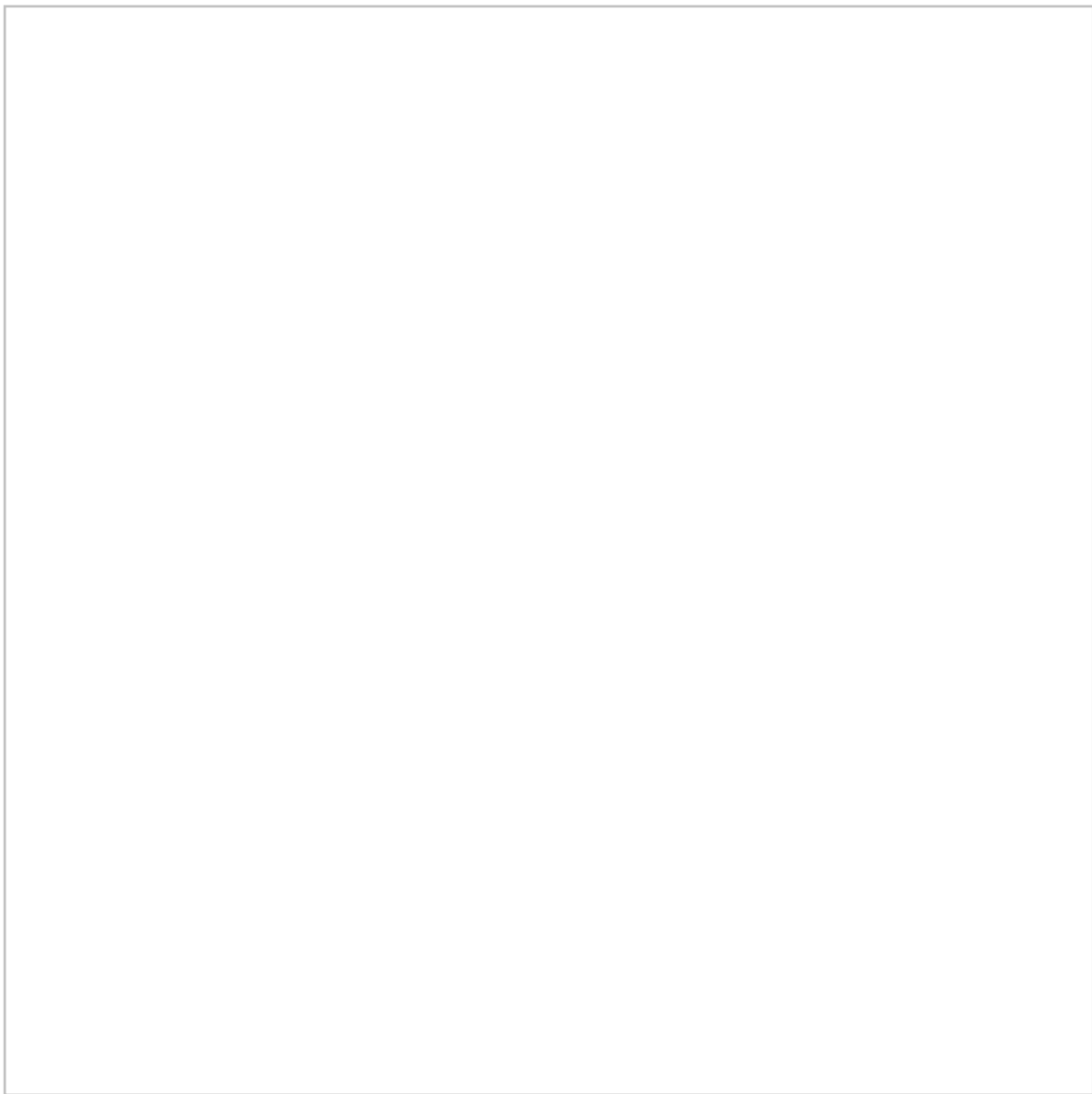


R.I.P. Fred Slatten, The King of Santa Monica Boulevard

Tony Castro

CASTRO'S LA-They used to call Fred Slatten (photo left) the King of Santa Monica Boulevard in West Hollywood in the years just after the 1960s had begun transforming pop culture in America. Slatten wasn't a musician or an actor. He didn't direct movies or represent stars. He did own a gorgeous bronze and gold Rolls Royce that became synonymous...





Plus, these CityWatch stories;

Shocker: Our Lakes and Rivers are Loaded with Artificial Sweeteners

Christian Cristiano

Gelfand's Attack on the Venerable City Bus: 'It Must be Satire, He Can't be Serious!

Matthew Hetz

Moe Greene is Dead ... Again

Paul Hatfield

Arrgh! Our Crumbling Infrastructure and the Equally Crumbling Lies of our Officials

Tony Butka

Survey Surprise: Bicyclists and Motorists Ignore Traffic Laws at Similar Rates

Robert Boos

What Would Los Angeles be Like Without Latinos?

Fred Mariscal

California City Creates Marijuana Innovation Zone ... Produces Medical Pot

Josh Stephens

10 Reasons Why Now Is the Best Time to Live in Los Angeles

Paul Haddad

LAUSD or 'Jailed' Teachers: Who's Telling the Truth?

Leonard Isenberg

Tom Hayden and Brentwood Homeowners Get Bulldozed by City Hall

John Schwada

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